

Remarks

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed July 26, 2005. By the foregoing amendments, claims 5, 6, and 8 have been amended and claims 13-16 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 2-3, 5-6, and 8-9 are pending in the application. No new matter is introduced by the amendments.

The Examiner has rejected claims 5-6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Claims 5-6 and 8 have been reviewed in light of this rejection, and amended by the foregoing amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that these claims as amended are now in the form satisfying the requirements under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

In reply to the rejections to claims 13-16 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 103(a) over the cited references of record, Applicants have cancelled claims 13-16 without prejudice.

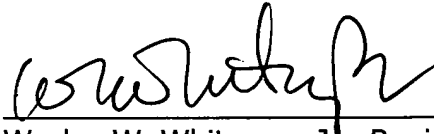
Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's indication of allowance of claims 9 and 2-3, and also of allowability of claims 5-6 and 8 if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as discussed above, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the foregoing amendments, claims 5-6 and 8 are amended as suggested by the Examiner and are now in the form satisfying this requirement under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims currently pending in the application (i.e., claims 2-3, 5-6, and 8-9) are now in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is earnestly requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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